

Bridgeport, OH – Congressman Charlie Wilson (OH-6) is pleased to announce that the U.S. Department of Education is awarding more than \$2.1 million in grants that will benefit Ohio's Sixth Congressional District.

The Mahoning County Educational Service Center's Curriculum and Instruction will receive \$997,098 under the Department of Education's Teaching American History Grants Program. According to the agency, the program is designed to raise student achievement by improving teachers' knowledge and understanding of and appreciation for traditional U.S. history. These programs will improve instruction and raise student achievement.

The Meigs Local School District will receive \$348,749 and the Gallia-Vinton Educational Service Center will receive \$350,000 under the Department of Education's Literacy and School Libraries Program. According to the agency, the program will provide students with increased access to up-to-date school library materials, a well equipped technologically advanced school library media center, and well-trained, professionally certified school library media specialists to improve literacy skills and achievement of students.

"Our children must have access to good educators and to the right tools in order to succeed," Wilson said. "This isn't just about our children's individual success; it is our duty to educate our children to ensure the success of Ohio and America."

Eastern Gateway Community College/Jefferson County Campus will receive \$238,045 and Ohio University will receive \$325,223 under the Department of Education's Student Support Services Program. According to the agency, the purpose of the program is to provide academic and other support services to low-income, first-generation or disabled college students to increase students' retention and graduation rates. It will also facilitate their transfer from two-year to four-year colleges.

Ohio University will also receive \$100,000 under the Department of Education's FIE Earmark Grant awards. The funding will support a teacher pilot program to be directed by the South East Ohio Center for Excellence in Mathematics and Science, which is based at Ohio University and serves rural Appalachia.

"College shouldn't be a privilege," Wilson said. "Higher education is essential to a good future and should be readily accessible to every hard working student."

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